## IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for reconfiguring base station equipment ~~equipment~~ of a sectorized cell site to relieve high call blocking rates in a first, heavily utilized sector, the method comprising:

selecting a TCB cabinet housing transmission equipment, the TCB cabinet corresponding to a second sector having less call traffic relative to the first sector, the TCB cabinet having a plurality of transceiver slots;

placing a set of first sector transceivers in a first designated set of transceiver slots of the TCB cabinet;

placing a set of second sector transceivers in a second designated set of transceiver slots of the TCB cabinet;

placing a combiner card having first and second input port pairs in the associated slot of the TCB cabinet;

connecting the first input port pair of the combiner card to first sector multicouplers;

connecting the second input port pair of the combiner card to second sector multicouplers; and

wherein backplane circuitry of the TCB cabinet directs combined uplink signals from the first input port pair to the first designated set of transceiver slots and directs combined uplink signals from the second input port pair to the second designated set of transceiver slots.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first designated set of transceiver slots is the odd-numbered transceiver slots and the second designated set of transceiver slots is the even-numbered transceiver slots.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~ establishing a transmission path between the set of first sector transceivers and the first sector antenna.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of first sector transceivers comprises a plurality of transceivers.

5. (currently amended) A base ~~Base~~ station apparatus for a sectorized cell site having at least a first and a second sector, the base station configured to relieve high call blocking rates in the first sector, comprising:

a TCB cabinet housing transmission equipment, the TCB cabinet having a plurality of transceiver slots;

a set of first sector transceivers located in a first designated set of transceiver slots of the TCB cabinet;

a set of second sector transceivers located in a second designated set of transceiver slots of the TCB cabinet;

a combiner card having first and second input port pairs located in an associated slot of the TCB cabinet;

a connection between the first input port pair of the combiner card and first sector multicouplers;

a connection between the second input port pair of the combiner card and second sector multicouplers; and

backplane circuitry in the TCB cabinet configured to route combined uplink signals from the first input port pair to the first designated set of transceiver slots and to route combined uplink signals from the second input port pair to the second designated set of transceiver slots.

6. (original) The base station apparatus of claim 5, wherein the first designated set of transceiver slots is the odd-numbered transceiver slots and the second designated set of transceiver slots is the even-numbered transceiver slots.

7. (original) The base station apparatus of claim 5, wherein the set of first sector transceivers comprises a plurality of transceivers.

8. (original) The base station apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a first ANPC cabinet for housing the first sector multicouplers and a second sector ANPC cabinet for housing the second sector multicouplers.